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## Sen. McManus, Sportsmen's Caucus Conduct First Meeting

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**(LANSING)** – The Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus held its first meeting recently to discuss ways to protect Michigan's outdoor heritage, state Senator Michelle McManus announced today.

"As an avid hunter and outdoors woman it is extremely exciting to participate in the Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus," McManus, vice-chair of the committee, said. "I look forward to the many issues that will be addressed, and I welcome any constituent input on issues that pertain to outdoor recreation."

A bipartisan organization to protect the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers, the sportsmen's caucus has 87 members in the Michigan Senate and House, which makes it one of the largest bi-partisan caucuses in the Legislature.

Sportsmen in Michigan spend more than \$2.06 billion annually, creating \$133 million in state tax revenue and \$880 million in salaries and wages. Sportsmen sustain 33,000 jobs for Michigan residents.

The organization is patterned after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, which is the largest on Capitol Hill.

Among the goals of the sportsmen's caucus are: to preserve and promote the traditional privileges enjoyed by Michigan citizens to hunt, fish and trap; to ensure that Michigan citizens have access to state managed public lands to enjoy hunting, fishing and trapping; and to support and enhance fish and wildlife habitat management and conservation.

The caucus meetings will take place on a monthly basis and features speakers from various Michigan conservation and outdoor recreation organizations.